

I am a member of the FISTS CW Club and fully support their position on this issue. I urge you to keep the current requirements for CW testing. I am a new ham, having been licensed for just about one year. I have used all modes, but have chosen to use CW mode almost exclusively. I am convinced that if I did not have to pass the element 2 Morse requirements, then I would never have gone on to work in this mode. That is what makes CW unique. I have used SSB, RTTY, PSK31 but I believe that CW is the essence of ham radio. As a result of my exposure and love for CW, I have recently built a QRP CW transceiver and work DX and chat using battery power and temporary antennas from bedrooms and my patio deck. I urge you to retain the current CW requirements and CW/Data band allocations. Without the current requirements, I would have been "short changed" by missing what ham radio is really about. Thank you, Kenneth D. Stovesand - N4OI